

Continuation-in-part Appl: 10/347,800
Preliminary Amendment dated: January 2, 2004

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the specification to cross reference the parent applications.

The present application is a continuation-in-part application and the prior art cited in the parent applications should be taken into consideration in the present application. In accordance with MPEP §2001.06(b) no copies of the prior art in the parent applications are submitted herewith. In accordance with MPEP §609, a Form 1449 listing these references is also submitted herewith. Confirmation that the prior art cited in the parent applications has been considered in the next Official Action is most respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendments to the specification an early and favorable action on the merits is now in order and is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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